

From: llegere@timeshamrock.com
Sent: 7/25/2012 5:02:56 PM

To: "Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA" <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>
CC: "Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA" <Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov>
Subject: Re: EPA Completes Drinking Water Sampling in Dimock, Pennsylvania

Thanks Terri.

On Wed, Jul 25, 2012 at 5:00 PM, Terri-A White <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Laura -- Here is the EPA response to your questions.

In prior statements about the Dimock investigation, you said, "Once all of the sample results are complete, we will conduct a comprehensive review to determine if there are any trends or patterns in the data as it relates to home well water quality." Did EPA perform such a review? If not, will it do so and when?

EPA Response: Throughout this process, which now has included five separate data releases, EPA has reviewed analytical results, and the particular circumstances at each residence, to make determinations on whether the situations presented a health concern, and if a further EPA action was warranted. The cumulative result from those efforts is a review which has shown that with only a few exceptions we did not find levels of hazardous substances in well water that could present a health concern. In those cases where the levels could present a health concern, we found that the residents have now or will have their own treatment systems that can reduce concentrations of contaminants to acceptable levels at the tap.

Question: Also, the press release notes that at the homes with elevated arsenic, barium or manganese the residents "have now or will have their own treatment systems that can reduce concentrations of those hazardous substances to acceptable levels at the tap." Are you referring to the treatment systems that Cabot is committed to provide to methane-affected residents through the consent order and settlement with DEP?

EPA response: No, these are pre-existing treatment systems owned by the homeowner.

Question: Will EPA ensure that the treatment systems are connected before it discontinues water delivery?

EPA Response: The treatment systems are already connected.

Another question came up as I was speaking to one of the Dimock residents, Scott Ely.

He said the EPA representative who delivered his water test results told him "off the record" not to drink or bathe in his untreated water. Can you confirm that his untreated water is not safe to drink or bathe in?

EPA Response: EPA risk assessors thoroughly reviewed all sampling results, comparing them to risk based levels, and concluded that none of the levels presented a health concern. That risk assessment considered both drinking the water as well as exposure through other household uses. EPA staff, in delivering test results, did not have any "off the record" conversations with residents. When asked questions, EPA staff did provide technical advice based on the sampling results and the particular circumstances at each residence.

From: Laura Legere <llegere@timeshamrock.com>
To: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 07/25/2012 03:20 PM
Subject: Re: EPA Completes Drinking Water Sampling in Dimock, Pennsylvania

Hi Terry and Roy,

Another question came up as I was speaking to one of the Dimock residents, Scott Ely.

He said the EPA representative who delivered his water test results told him "off the record" not to drink or bathe in his untreated water. Can you confirm that his untreated water is not safe to drink or bathe in?

Thanks,

Laura Legere

Staff Writer

Scranton Times-Tribune

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On Wed, Jul 25, 2012 at 1:30 PM, Laura Legere <llegere@timeshamrock.com> wrote:

Hi Terri and Roy,

Thank you for sending the press release. In prior statements about the Dimock investigation, you said, "Once all of the sample results are complete, we will conduct a comprehensive review to determine if there are any trends or patterns in the data as it relates to home well water quality."

Did EPA perform such a review? If not, will it do so and when?

Also, the press release notes that at the homes with elevated arsenic, barium or manganese the residents "have now or will have their own treatment systems that can reduce concentrations of those hazardous substances to acceptable levels at the tap." Are you referring to the treatment systems that Cabot is committed to provide to methane-affected residents through the consent order and settlement with DEP? Will EPA ensure that the treatment systems are connected before it discontinues water delivery?

Thanks for your help.

Laura Legere

Staff Writer

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On Wed, Jul 25, 2012 at 1:11 PM, Terri-A White <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Please see attached EPA News Release - July 25, 2012